

## 2-1. Driving procedures

### Driving the vehicle

The following procedures should be observed to ensure safe driving.

#### **n** Starting the hybrid system (→P. 103)

#### **n** Driving

**STEP 1** With the brake pedal depressed, shift the shift lever to "D".  
(→P. 106)

**STEP 2** Release the parking brake.  
(→P. 111)

**STEP 3** Gradually release the brake pedal and gently push the accelerator pedal to accelerate the vehicle.

#### **n** Stopping

**STEP 1** With the shift lever in "D", push the brake pedal.

**STEP 2** If necessary, set the parking brake.

When the vehicle is stopped for an extended period of time, shift the shift lever to "P".  
(→P. 106)

#### **n** Parking the vehicle

**STEP 1** With the shift lever in "D", push the brake pedal.

**STEP 2** Set the parking brake.  
(→P. 111)

**STEP 3** Shift the shift lever to "P".  
(→P. 106)

**STEP 4** Stop the hybrid system.

**STEP 5** Lock the door, making sure that you have the electronic key on your person.

### Starting on a steep incline

**STEP 1** Firmly set the parking brake and shift the shift lever to "D".

**STEP 2** Gently depress the accelerator pedal.

**STEP 3** Release the parking brake.

### n **Breaking in your new Lexus**

To extend the life of the vehicle, the following precautions are recommended to observe:

- 1 For the first 186 miles (300 km):  
Avoid sudden stops.
- 1 For the first 621 miles (1000 km):
  - Do not drive at extremely high speeds.
  - Avoid sudden acceleration.
  - Do not drive continuously in the low range in the "S" position.
  - Do not drive at a constant speed for extended periods.

### n **Operating your vehicle in a foreign country**

Comply with the relevant vehicle registration laws and confirm the availability of the correct fuel. (→P. 488)

### n **For efficient use**

- 1 Put the shift lever into "D" when driving  
In the "N" position, the gasoline engine operates but electricity cannot be generated. The hybrid battery (traction battery) will be discharged requiring unnecessary engine power to recharge.
- 1 Drive your vehicle smoothly  
Avoid abrupt acceleration and deceleration. Gradual acceleration and deceleration will make more effective use of the traction motor without having to use gasoline engine power.
- 1 Avoid repeated acceleration  
Repeated acceleration consumes hybrid battery (traction battery) power, resulting in poor acceleration. Battery power can be restored by driving with the accelerator pedal slightly released.
- 1 Put the shift lever into "P" when parking  
In the "N" position, the hybrid battery (traction battery) does not recharge. Leaving the shift lever in the "N" position for an extended period of the time may discharge the hybrid battery. The vehicle cannot run if the hybrid battery is discharged.

### n **When starting on an incline**

The hill-start assist control may operate. (→P. 164)

## 2-1. Driving procedures

### CAUTION

#### **n When starting the vehicle**

Always keep your foot on the brake pedal while stopped with the hybrid system running. This prevents the vehicle from creeping.

#### **n When driving the vehicle**

**I** Do not drive if you are unfamiliar with the location of the brake and accelerator pedals to avoid depressing the wrong pedal.

Accidentally depressing the accelerator pedal instead of the brake pedal will result in sudden acceleration that may lead to an accident that could result in death or serious injury.

**I** The driver should pay attention to pedestrians when the vehicle is powered only by the electric motor (traction motor). Because there is no engine sounds, the pedestrians may misjudge the vehicle's movement.

**I** Do not drive the vehicle over or stop the vehicle near flammable materials.

**I** Do not let the vehicle roll backwards while the shift lever is in a driving position, or roll forward while the shift lever is in "R".

Doing so may cause the hybrid system not to operate or lead to poor brake and steering performance, resulting in an accident or damage to the vehicle.

**I** If the smell of exhaust is noticed inside the vehicle, open the windows and check that the trunk is closed.

Large amounts of exhaust in the vehicle can cause driver drowsiness and eventually, death. Have the cause of the problem inspected immediately.

**⚠ CAUTION****n When driving the vehicle**

- I** Do not under any circumstances shift the shift lever to "P", "R" or "N" while the vehicle is moving.  
Doing so can cause significant damage to the transmission and may result in a loss of vehicle control.
- I** Do not shift the shift lever to "N" while the vehicle is moving.  
Doing so may cause the engine brake not to operate properly and lead to an accident.
- I** Do not turn the hybrid system off while driving.  
The brake actuator will not operate properly if the hybrid system is off.
- I** Use engine braking (downshift) to maintain a safe speed when driving down a steep hill.  
Using the brakes continuously may cause the brakes to overheat and lose effectiveness. (→P. 108)
- I** When stopped on an inclined surface, use the brake pedal and parking brake to prevent the vehicle from rolling backward or forward and causing an accident.
- I** Be careful when driving on slippery surfaces, as the vehicle may spin or skid when downshifting, rapidly accelerating, braking or turning.
- I** Do not adjust the position of the steering wheel, the seat, or the inside or outside rear view mirrors while driving.  
Doing so may result in a loss of vehicle control that can cause accidents that may result in death or serious injury.
- I** Always check that all passengers' arms, heads or other parts of their bodies are not outside the vehicle, as this may result in death or serious injury.

## 2-1. Driving procedures

### CAUTION

#### **n When shifting the shift lever**

Be careful not to shift the shift lever with the accelerator pedal depressed. This may lead to unexpected rapid acceleration of the vehicle that may cause an accident and result in death or serious injury.

#### **n When the vehicle is stopped**

- I** Do not race the hybrid system.  
If the vehicle is in any positions other than "P" or "N" the vehicle may accelerate suddenly and unexpectedly, and may cause an accident.
- I** Do not leave the vehicle with the hybrid system on for a long time.  
If such a situation cannot be avoided, park the vehicle in an open space and check that exhaust fumes do not enter the vehicle interior.
- I** Always keep a foot on the brake pedal while the hybrid system is operating to prevent an accident caused by the vehicle moving.

#### **n When the vehicle is parked**

- I** Do not leave glasses, cigarette lighters, spray cans, or soft drink cans in the vehicle when it is in the sun.  
Failure to do so may result in the following:
  - Gas may leak from a cigarette lighter or spray can, and may lead to a fire.
  - The temperature inside the vehicle may cause the plastic lenses and plastic material of eye glasses to deform or crack.
  - Soft drink cans may fracture, causing the contents to spray over the interior of the vehicle, and may also cause a short circuit in the vehicle's electrical components.
- I** Always apply the parking brake, shift the shift lever to "P", stop the hybrid system and lock the vehicle.  
Do not leave the vehicle unattended while the hybrid system is operating.
- I** Do not touch the exhaust pipe while the hybrid system is operating or immediately after turning the hybrid system off.  
Doing so may cause burns.
- I** Do not leave the hybrid system operating in an area with snow build up, or where snow is expected to fall.  
Exhaust gases may enter the vehicle and cause gas poisoning.

**⚠ CAUTION****n When taking a nap in the vehicle**

Always turn the hybrid system off.

Otherwise, you may accidentally move the shift lever or press the accelerator pedal, which could cause an accident or fire due to abnormal hybrid system overheating. Additionally, if the vehicle is parked in a poorly ventilated area, exhaust fumes may enter the vehicle and cause gas poisoning.

**n When braking the vehicle**

**1** When the brakes are wet, drive more cautiously.

Braking distance increases when the brakes are wet, and may cause one side of the vehicle to brake differently than the other side. Also the parking brake may not securely hold the vehicle.

**1** If the brake actuator does not operate, do not follow other vehicles closely and avoid downhill or sharp turns that require making.

In this case, braking is still possible, but it will require more force on the pedal than usual. Braking distance may also increase.

**1** Do not pump the brake pedal if the hybrid system is not operating. Each push on the pedal uses up your reserved brake fluid pressure.

**1** The brake system consists of 3 individual hydraulic systems: if one of the systems fails, the other will still operate. In this case, the brake pedal should be depressed more firmly than usual and braking distance becomes longer.

Do not drive your vehicle with only a single brake system. Have your brakes fixed immediately.

## 2-1. Driving procedures

### NOTICE

#### **n While driving the vehicle**

Do not use the accelerator pedal or depress accelerator and brake pedals together to hold the vehicle on a hill.

#### **n When parking the vehicle**

Always put the shift lever in "P". Failure to do so may cause the vehicle to move or the vehicle may accelerate suddenly if the accelerator pedal is accidentally depressed.

#### **n Avoiding damage to vehicle parts**

**I** Do not turn the steering wheel fully in either direction and hold it there for a long time.

Doing so may damage the power steering motor.

**I** When driving over bumps in the road, drive as slowly as possible to avoid damaging the wheels, underside of the vehicle, etc.

#### **n If you hear a squealing or scraping noise (brake pad wear limit indicators)**

Have your Lexus dealer check and replace the brake pads as soon as possible. The rotor damage can result if the pads are not replaced when needed.

Front brake only: Moderate levels of the brake pad and disc wear allow enhanced front braking power. As a result, the discs may wear more quickly than conventional brake discs. Therefore, when replacing the brake pads, Lexus recommends that you also have the thickness of the discs measured.

It is dangerous to drive the vehicle when the wear limits of the brake pads and/or that of the brake discs are exceeded.

#### **n If you get a flat tire while driving**

A flat or damaged tire may cause the following situations. Hold the steering wheel firmly and gradually press the brake pedal to slow down the vehicle.

**I** It may be difficult to control your vehicle.

**I** The vehicle will make abnormal sounds.

**I** The vehicle will behave abnormally.

Replace a flat tire with a new one. (→P. 464)

## 2-1. Driving procedures

### Starting the hybrid system

Modes can be switched by pressing the power switch when carrying the electronic key on your person. (The hybrid system can be started in any mode by operating the switch at the same time as depressing the brake pedal.)

#### n Changing power switch mode



##### 1 "OFF" mode\*

Emergency flashers can be used.

##### 2 "ACC" mode

Some electrical components such as the audio system can be used.

##### 3 "IG-ON" mode

All electrical components can be used.

\*: The power cannot be switched to "OFF" unless the shift lever is in "P".

#### n Starting the hybrid system

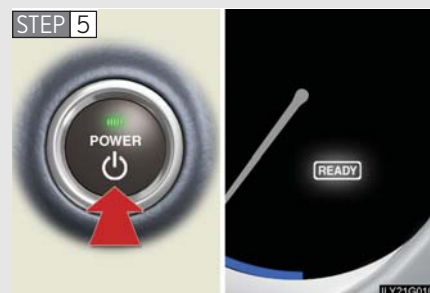
**STEP 1** Check that the parking brake is set.

**STEP 2** Turn off unnecessary lights and accessories.

**STEP 3** Check that the shift lever is set in "P".

**STEP 4** Sit in the driver's seat and firmly depress the brake pedal.

The power switch indicator turns green.



Press the power switch.

After a few seconds, the "READY" light will flash and come on with a beep sound.

The vehicle can move when the "READY" light is on, even if the engine is stopped.

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When driving



## 2-1. Driving procedures

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### **n If the hybrid system does not start**

The hybrid vehicle immobilizer system may not have been deactivated. (→P. 59)

### **n When the power switch indicator flashes in amber**

The system may be malfunctioning. Have the vehicle inspected by your Lexus dealer immediately.

### **n If the "READY" light does not come on**

If the "READY" light does not come on when you press the power switch with the shift lever in "P" and the brake pedal pressed, contact your Lexus dealer immediately.

### **n Auto power OFF function**

If the vehicle is left in the "ACC" mode for more than an hour with the shift lever in "P", the power switch will automatically turn "OFF".

### **n When the ambient temperature is low**

Such as during winter driving conditions, it may take time until the "READY" light comes on.

### **n Sounds and vibrations specific to a hybrid vehicle**

→P. 4

### **n When the hybrid system is malfunctioning**

→P. 450

### **n Electronic key battery depletion**

→P. 17

### **n When the electronic key battery is discharged**

→P. 401

### **n Conditions affecting operation**

→P. 15

### **n Leak detection pump**

Several hours after the hybrid system is turned off, you may hear a sound coming from underneath the luggage compartment for several minutes. This is normal operation and does not indicate a malfunction.

### CAUTION

#### **n When starting the hybrid system**

Always start the hybrid system while sitting in the driver's seat. Do not press the accelerator pedal while starting the hybrid system under any circumstances. Doing so may cause an accident resulting in death or serious injury.

#### **n Caution while driving**

Do not touch the power switch while driving. Pressing and holding the power switch will stop the hybrid system, which may lead to an accident.

### NOTICE

#### **n To prevent 12 volt battery discharge**

Do not leave the power switch in "ACC" or "IG-ON" mode for long periods without the hybrid system on.

#### **n When starting the hybrid system**

**1** Do not race the hybrid system.

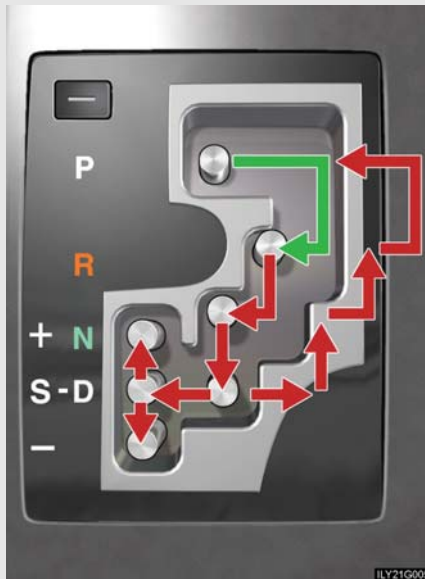
**1** If the hybrid system becomes difficult to start, have the hybrid system checked immediately.

## 2-1. Driving procedures

### Transmission

Select a shift position appropriate for the driving conditions.

#### n Shifting the shift lever



← While the power switch is in "IG-ON" mode, depress the brake pedal and move the shift lever.

### n Shift position uses

Shift position	Function
P	Parking the vehicle or starting the hybrid system
R	Reversing
N	Neutral
D	Normal driving <sup>*1</sup>
S	"S" mode driving <sup>*2</sup> (→P.108)

<sup>\*1</sup>: To improve fuel consumption and reduce noises, set the shift lever in the "D" position for normal driving.

<sup>\*2</sup>: By selecting shift ranges using "S" mode, you can control engine braking forces.

### n Selecting a driving mode

The following patterns can be selected to suit current driving and operating conditions.



#### 1 Power mode

For powerful acceleration and driving in mountainous regions.

#### 2 Normal mode

#### 3 Snow mode

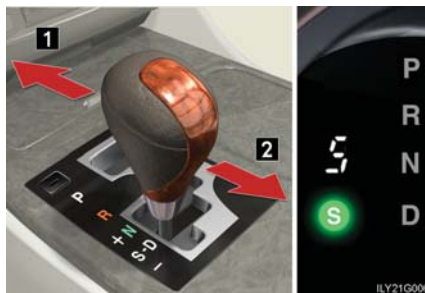
For accelerating and driving on slippery road surfaces, such as on snow.

Press "SNOW" to return to normal mode.

## 2-1. Driving procedures

### Changing shift ranges in "S" mode

Shift the shift lever to the "S" position and operate the shift lever.



- 1 Upshifting
- 2 Downshifting

The initial shift range in "S" mode is automatically set to "5".

#### n Shift ranges and their functions

- 1 You can choose from 6 levels of engine braking force.
- 1 A lower shift range will provide greater engine braking force than a higher shift range, and the engine revolutions will also increase.
- 1 If you accelerate while in ranges "1" to "5", the shift range may automatically range up in accordance with the vehicle's speed.

#### n Downshifting restrictions in "S" mode

The shift lever cannot be downshifted if the following speeds are exceeded. (The warning buzzer will sound twice in this situation.)

Downshifting	Maximum speed mph (km/h)
5→4	108 (173)
4→3	78 (125)
3→2	58 (94)
2→1	34 (55)

### ■ When in heavy traffic

To avoid running the hybrid battery (traction battery) down, leave the shift lever in "D" or "S".

### ■ When driving with the cruise control system (or dynamic radar cruise control system)

The engine brake will not operate in the "S" mode, even when downshifting to "5" or "4". (→P. 129, 132)

### ■ Snow mode automatic deactivation

Snow mode is automatically deactivated if the power switch is turned to "ACC" or "IG-ON" mode after driving in snow mode.

### ■ If the shift lever cannot be shifted from "P"

→P. 472

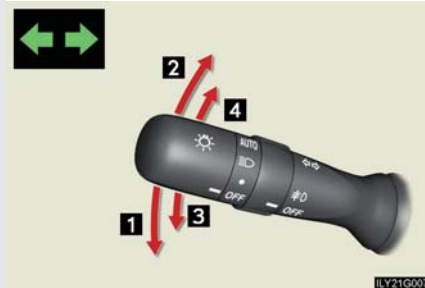
### ■ If the indicator does not come on even after shifting the shift lever to "S"

This may indicate a malfunction in the transmission. Have the vehicle inspected by your Lexus dealer immediately.

(In this situation, the vehicle will operate as if the shift lever is in "D".)

## 2-1. Driving procedures

### Turn signal lever



- 1 Left turn
- 2 Right turn
- 3 Move and hold the lever part-way to signal a lane change  
The left hand signal will flash until you release the lever.
- 4 Move and hold the lever part-way to signal a lane change  
The right hand signal will flash until you release the lever.

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n **Turn signals can be operated when**

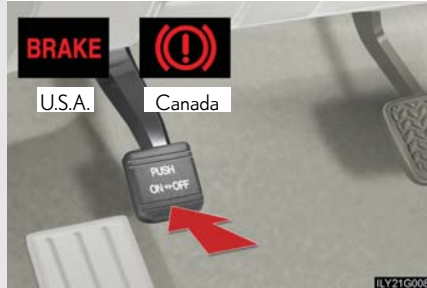
The power switch is in "IG-ON" mode.

n **If the indicators flash faster than usual**

Check that a light bulb in the front or rear turn signal lights has not burned out.

## 2-1. Driving procedures

### Parking brake



Sets the parking brake\*  
(Depressing the pedal again releases the parking brake.)

\*: Fully depress the parking brake pedal with your left foot while depressing the brake pedal with your right foot.

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#### NOTICE

##### **n Before driving**

Fully release the parking brake.

Driving the vehicle with the parking brake set will lead to brake components overheating, which may affect braking performance and increase brake wear.

When driving